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URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL



OF KIDSGROVE



ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

Medical Officer of Health

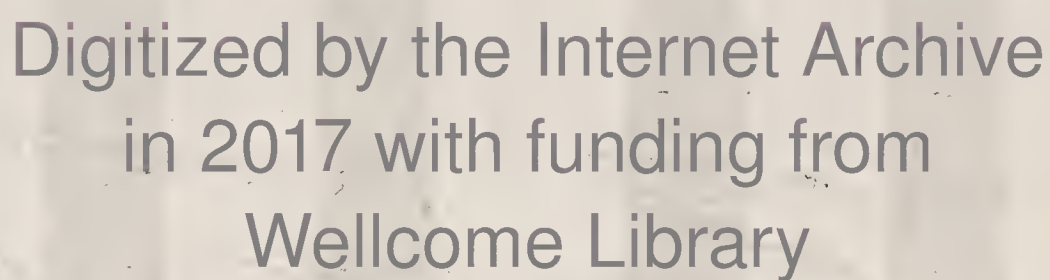
AND

Chief Sanitary Inspector

FOR THE

YEAR 1947

June, 1947



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**URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL
OF KIDSGROVE**

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

HEALTH DEPARTMENT

for the Year 1947.

Mr. E. HODGKINSON, Esq. Chairman Public Health Committee

Public Health Officers of the Local Authority :

(a) H. P. HARPUR, B.A., M.D., B.Ch., B.A.O.

Medical Officer of Health

Private Address :— "Holmcroft," Alsager

(Part-time Official)

(b) N. ROCHE, M.R. San.I., M.S.I.A.,

Chief Sanitary Inspector

(also Certified Meat and Food Inspector)

Public Assistance Medical Officer and Public Vaccinator :

Dr. W. A. McDonald, "Ivy Cottage," Congleton Road, Talke.

District Health Visitors : (under control of County Council)

Nurse L. Moorcroft, S.R.N., S.C.M., 24, First Avenue, Kidsgrove.

Nurse F. Morley, S.R.N., S.C.M., "Cornerways," Gower Street,
Newcastle-under-Lyme.

Nurse C. Waldron, S.R.N., S.C.M., 93, High Street, Harriseahead.

District Midwives : (under control of County Council)

Nurse B. A. Cottrell, S.R.N. S.C.M., Chapel Lane, Harriseahead
(Phone : Biddulph 160)

Nurse B. Webb, S.R.N., S.C.M., 10, Nelson Buildings, Kidsgrove.
(Phone : Kidsgrove 211)

Miss A. Wrigley, S.C.M., 16, Ashenough Road, Talke Pits.
(Phone : Kidsgrove 29)

Urban District of Kidsgrove

Medical Officer's Report for the Year 1947.

To the Chairman and Members of the Council
of the Urban District of Kidsgrove.

Gentlemen,

I beg to present my ANNUAL REPORT for the year 1947.

A. (1) STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA

Population : Estimated 14,904. (Registrar General's estimate not yet available.)

No. of Houses : Estimated 4,250.

Area : 4,095 Acres.

Rateable Value : £50,779

Sum represented by a penny rate : £190 8 11

The Area is divided into three Wards :—

The Kidsgrove Ward.

The Newchapel Ward.

The Talke Ward.

The district is an industrial and residential district, several new industries have been established in the area, and more factories are in the course of construction.

(2) VITAL STATISTICS.

Live Births : Total 260. Males 135. Females 125.

Birth Rate per 1,000 of the estimated population : 17.3.

Stillbirths : Total 5. Males 5. Females 0.

Illegitimate Births : Total 4. Males 2. Females 2.

Deaths : Total 170. Males 80. Females 90.

Ages at Death :—

Infants under 1 year	...	...	...	16
1 to 10 years	...	...	...	3
10 to 20 years	...	...	...	3
20 to 30 years	...	...	...	5
30 to 40 years	...	...	...	8
40 to 50 years	...	...	...	7
50 to 60 years	...	...	...	12
60 to 70 years	...	...	...	31
70 to 80 years	...	...	...	58
Over 80 years	...	...	...	24
Over 90 years	...	...	...	3
Total				170

Causes of Death :—

Accidents	...	...	...	...	10
Arterio-Sclerosis	...	...	...	...	18
Cerebral Haemorrhage	...	...	...	...	13
Cerebral Thrombosis	...	...	...	...	4
Cancer	...	...	...	...	20
Coronary Thrombosis	...	...	...	...	7
Diseases of the Lungs	...	...	...	...	10
Diseases of the Kidneys	...	...	...	...	3
Heart Disease	...	...	...	...	26
Pneumonia (Lobar and Bronchial)	...	...	...	...	9
Pernicious Anaemia	...	...	...	...	4
Paralysis Agitans	...	...	...	...	1
Senile Decay	...	...	...	...	21
Suicide	...	...	...	...	1
Tuberculosis (Pulmonary)	...	...	...	...	4
Tuberculosis (Non Pulmonary)	...	...	...	...	2
Ulcerative Colitis	...	...	...	...	1
Other Diseases	...	...	...	...	16
Total					170

This total includes the following transferable deaths from outside the area. Males 25. Females 20. Total 45.

Death rate (crude) per 1,000 of the estimated population : 11.3
 Deaths from puerperal causes : 0
 Deaths of Infants under 1 year : Total 16. Males 12. Females 4.
 Death Rate of Infants per 1,000 births : 3.5
 Death from Measles : 0
 Death from Whooping Cough : 0
 Death from Diarrhoea (under two years of age) : 0
 Inquests : 9

There has been no specially noteworthy cause of sickness during the year (and no special conditions of occupation or environment which appears to have had a prejudicial effect on health.) There was an epidemic of measles during the late summer and autumn months,

B.—GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES IN THE AREA

1. Public Health Officers of the Authority : (See page 1.)

2. (a) Laboratory Facilities :—Laboratory arrangements for the examination of sputum, swabs, water, milk and foodstuffs are undertaken by the County Laboratory at Stafford.

(b) Ambulance Facilities :—For infectious cases, a motor ambulance is kept at Bradwell Isolation Hospital, and can be summoned by telephone (Chesterton 6801.)

A motor ambulance maintained by the Kidsgrove Home Service Ambulance Committee is available at the Town Hall for non-infectious cases and five sitting cases. 187 cases were conveyed by this ambulance during the year.

3. Nursing in the Home :—There is a local Nursing Association affiliated with the County Association which is supported by voluntary contributions.

The three Health Visitors reside and work in the area, one in each Ward. They look after expectant and nursing mothers and take on the supervision of any case under these heads, or any special case when required to do so by the Medical Officer.

4. Clinics and Treatment Centres :—Maternity and Child Welfare Clinics are held at Kidsgrove, Harriseahead and Talke as follows :—

Central Methodist School, Kidsgrove	Monday afternoon (Child Welfare).
Ditto.	Wednesday afternoon (Maternity and Child Welfare) for Kidsgrove and Talke.

New Road Methodist School, Talke,	Thursday afternoon, (Child Welfare).
Harriseahead Methodist School,	Tuesday afternoon (Maternity and Child Welfare).

These Clinics are managed by the Medical and Nursing Staff of the County Council. School Clinics are held regularly by the School Medical Officer of the County Council.

There is a Tuberculosis Dispensary at Newcastle-under-Lyme.

There is a voluntary Nursing School at Wesley Street, Kidsgrove, under the control of the Staffordshire County Council Education Committee, with accommodation for 40 children. There are also two War-time Nurseries at Liverpool Road, Kidsgrove and Banbury Street, Butt Lane, each having accommodation for 50 children.

The average number of children in attendance throughout the year were Wesley St. Kidsgrove, 31. Liverpool Rd. Kidsgrove, 36. Banbury St. Butt Lane 45

Venereal Cases can obtain treatment as follows :—

North Staffordshire Royal Infirmary :—

Males—Monday and Friday, 6-30 to 8-0 p.m.

Tuesday to Thursday, 9-30 to 12 noon.

Females—Monday and Friday, 5-0 to 6-0 p.m.

Tuesday to Thursday, 9-30 to 12 noon.

Saturday, 10-0 to 12 noon.

Municipal Treatment Centre, Wellesley Street, Hanley :—

Both Sexes Monday and Thursday, 2-30 to 7-0 p.m.

Tuesday and Friday, 10-30 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Wednesday, 2-30 to 5-0 p.m.

There are no Artificial Light Clinics.

5. Hospitals—Fever :—Infectious cases are sent to Bradwell Isolation Hospital (or the Newcastle Infectious Diseases Hospital by arrangement with Bradwell) which is under the Newcastle-under-Lyme Joint Hospital Board.

Smallpox : Smallpox cases may be sent to Bagnall Fever Hospital (North Staffs. Joint Smallpox Hospital Board.)

The Council contributes to the maintenance of both the above Isolation Hospitals.

Tuberculosis : Cases of Tuberculosis are provided with sanatorium facilities by the Joint Committee of the County Council, Wolverhampton and Dudley County Boroughs.

Maternity : There is no Maternity Hospital in the District, but it is understood sixteen beds are available at the Fanny Deakin Maternity Home at Newcastle-under-Lyme.

The County Council have made arrangements for specialist treatment and the abnormalities of pregnancy but many types of case occur which owing to the lack of accommodation or home help are best treated in a Maternity home.

Facilities are available at the Mrs Legge Memorial Home, Wolverhampton for dealing with unmarried prospective mothers, who can be received there for their confinement.

Children : The North Staffs. Royal Infirmary.

Orthopædic : The Cripples' Hospital, Hartshill, or the above.

The North Staffs. Royal Infirmary is available for all forms of treatment, medical and surgical. It is contributed to by voluntary contributions from the area.

None of these hospitals are situated within the area.

C.—SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA.

1. Water.

(a) Kidsgrove Ward —

The whole of this ward is provided with a piped supply. The consumption per capita is 25. The properties in this ward are supplied by the Staffordshire Potteries Water Board. The water is of good quality and the supply is fully maintained throughout the year.

1,563 houses are supplied by this source.

(b) Newchapel Ward :—

The Urban District Council is the Water Authority. The water is obtained from the following sources :—

1. Well 105 ft. deep with a borehole diameter 15" reducing to 12" the depth of which is 331 ft. from the bottom of the well.

The water is raised to the covered storage reservoir, capacity 130,000 galls. by a triple ram pump driven by a gas engine. The plant is duplicated.

The sources of supply and the storage reservoir are situated at Mow Cop.

2. The well is 80 ft. deep and situated at Hardings Row, Mow Cop. From here the water is raised to the Mow Cop storage reservoir by a one two throw ram pump driven by a gas engine.
3. From mains connected with mains of Congleton R.D.C.
4. From mains connected with mains of Biddulph U.D.C.

During the war the bore-hole in the well at Mow Cop was sunk at a cost of £3,475. The yield from the bore-hole did not come up to expectations, and resulted in the yield from this source being increased by only 25 per cent. The original yield was 13,000 gallons per day and this figure is now 15,800.

The daily consumption is 79,810 gallons or 17.73 galls. per capita.

The total quantity of water available in the ward is just sufficient to meet present demands. The position of water supplies in this ward is under review.

The bore-hole which was sunk at the deep well at Mow Cop became necessary owing to the quantity of water yielded from the Council's own sources decreasing. The Authorities which supplement this supply have been pressing for a reduction in the demands on their mains. The part of the ward where the supply was augmented by Biddulph Water has had to rely on this entirely for a period each day. This has resulted in an unsatisfactory intermittent supply due to lack of pressure.

(c) Talke Ward :-

The average daily consumption during the year was 22 per capita.

The Urban District Council is the Water Authority.

Piped supplies are available in 98 per cent of the ward.

Water is obtained in bulk from a Joint Authority comprising this Council and the Newcastle R.D. Council.

The water is obtained from a bore-hole situated in the village of Audley, and pumped to storage reservoirs situated at Alsagers Bank. From there a gravity supply is taken to storage reservoirs, 2 tanks each 100,000 galls. capacity at Crown Bank, Talke, consumption 110,000 galls. per day.

8" main from Alsagers Bank (Newcastle R.D.C.) during 1947. Only source of supply to Talke Ward.

2. Rivers and Streams : Both the County Council and the Local Authority have power to enforce the provisions of the Rivers Pollution Prevention Act.

3. Drainage and Sewerage :—

Practically the whole of the district is provided with sewers the sewage being conveyed to the Rookery or Red Bull Sewage Works.

Rookery Sewage Works :

This works, which receives sewage from the Newchapel Ward continues to work satisfactorily.

Red Bull Sewage Works :

This works, which receives sewage from the Kidsgrove and Talke Wards, in addition to sewage from premises situated in the City of Stoke-on-Trent, is overloaded.

The scheme submitted to the Ministry of Health in connection with the Sewerage and Outfall Works has been held up so far as extensions to the disposal works was concerned, primarily on account of the Ministry's requirements that Atmospheric Sludge Digestion should be introduced and further as a result of prevailing war conditions. When completed the works will be able to deal with a dry weather flow of 350,000 galls. per day.

Septic Tanks and Filters and Cesspools :

There are a number of these throughout the district, the majority of which are in connection with private drainage systems.

On the 4th June, 1942, the Council formally undertook to empty cesspools throughout the district.

Sewerage and Sewage Disposal :

Talke Ward :-

The whole of the ward was re-sewered in 1938-39 and the system was designed to cope with the anticipated development of the ward.

One pumping station was included in the scheme and the outfall works are situated at Red Bull, Lawton.

The process of disposal is sedimentation and Bacteriological Filtration.

The dry weather flow from this ward is 80,000 gallons per day.

A scheme for the extension of these works has been provisionally approved by the Ministry of Health. This scheme incorporates sludge digestion.

Kidsgrove Ward :-

The whole of the ward is sewered and served by a water carriage system

The outfall works are those described for the Talke Ward.

The dry weather flow is 200,000 gallons per day.

Newchapel Ward :-

90 per cent of this ward is sewered and the Disposal Works are situated at Rookery. The process of disposal is the same as for Kidsgrove and Talke and the dry weather flow is 72,000 gallons per day.

4. Public Cleansing.

(1) Ash Collecting, etc.

Refuse collection is under the control of the Sanitary Inspector and is carried out by the Council's workmen under a system of direct labour. The refuse is normally collected each week throughout the district, but the collection of salvage and other factors have necessitated some adjustment of collection, in consequence of which the ashes have not been collected more frequently than once every 10 days. Covered motor vehicles are used for the purpose and sanitary bins are in general use throughout the area.

(2) Refuse Disposal.

The refuse from Kidsgrove and Talke Wards is taken to a controlled tip at Talke Hurst, Butt Lane, which is outside the district. Refuse from the Newchapel Ward is taken to a controlled tip at Trubshaw Farm,

(3) Salvage.

Collection :

All salvaged articles or materials (apart from waste food) from domestic premises are collected at the same time as refuse, a trailer being attached to the refuse vehicle for this purpose. Special journeys are made when these are justified.

Sorting and Baling :

(a) **At the Salvage Depot**—Talke Hurst Tip. One man is employed at this depot, part time and this is the only additional labour employed for salvage

Bones are stored in covered metal receptacles pending removal.

Bottles are separated and graded and stored to the best advantage.

Paper (including cardboard) is baled and stored, also Rags.

Metals, etc. are stored in bulk until a marketable quantity is obtained.

(b) **At the tips**—The collection of tins has now ceased in accordance with Ministry instructions. Other salvaged articles separated from the refuse are taken to the Salvage Depot.

Disposal.

The following amounts of salvaged goods have been sold during the year :

			Tons	Cwts	Qrs.	Lbs
Black Scrap	...	...	9	0	0	0
Tins	...	...	0	0	2	0
Lead	...	...	0	0	3	0
Waste Paper	...	...	18	10	0	0
Textiles	...	...	0	4	1	0
Scrap Iron	...	...	2	15	3	0
Copper	...	...	0	0	1	7
Aluminium & Brass	...	...	0	0	2	0
Jars	...	...	20 doz.			
Bottles	...	...	7 doz.			

Nightsoil.

The Council's covered vehicle complete with a steel watertight tank is used for nightsoil collection. The collection of nightsoil is carried out once a fortnight throughout the whole of the Urban District.

In my opinion, closet emptying should be carried out weekly.

The nightsoil is disposed of by tipping into a conveniently situated inlet adjacent to the Rookery Sewerage Works.

5. Closet Accomodation (Pails and Privies).

The following are details of closets other than W.C.'s and wastewater closets (end of year) which are emptied by the authority.

	Fixed Earthenware Receptacles	Privies	Moveable Recept'le	Chemic'l Closets
Talke Ward—				
Houses (including farms and Inns)	290	141	6	—
Factories, etc.	3	12	—	—
Additional closets at houses Inns and Farms	1	—	—	2
Kidsgrove Ward—				
Houses	9	6	2	—
Factories, etc.... ...	8	—	—	—
Additional at Farm	—	1	—	—
Newchapel Ward—				
Houses (including Farms and Inns)	152	34	32	—
Factories, etc	7	2	3	—
Additional closets at houses, Inns and Farms	1	—	4	—
	471	196	47	2

6. Food Preparing Premises

Twenty Seven premises are registered for the preparation or manufacture of sausage or potted, pressed, pickled, or preserved food (three temporarily.)

Five premises are registered for the sale or manufacture or storage of ice cream.

7. Offensive Trade.

There are no Offensive Trades in the Urban District

8. Milk and Dairies.

(a) There are 46 registered dairies in the district, 42 registered cow-keepers (16 of whom are wholesale purveyors.)

There are 44 retail purveyors, apart from retailers from outside the area

9. Swimming Baths.

There are no public or privately owned swimming baths in the district.

10. Disinfestation, etc.

All major infestations by Rats have been eradicated and premises have been treated for the eradication of cockroaches and fleas.

D.—HOUSING

1. At the end of the war the Council embarked on an ambitious housing programme the following schedule gives some idea of the progress made, up to 31st December, 1947.

Estate	Houses to be erected	Contracts arranged	Houses Commenced	Houses Completed
Talke Pits Estate	62	62	62	62
Banbury Street, Talke	36	36	36	36
Mow Cop Estate	60	60	58	44
Woodshutts Estate	402	140	316	120
Total	560	298	472	262

2. The second phase of the Council's Housing Programme provided for developing the further sites indicated below :-

Site	Proposed number of Houses		
Ashenough Site, Talke	...	...	83
Crown Bank Site, Talke	...	...	138
Galleys Bank Site, Kidsgrove	...	...	100
Mow Cop Site, Newchapel	...	...	30
Total	...	...	351

3. The number of licenses issued to private builders for the erection of houses during the year ended 31st December, 1947 is given below :-

Ward of U.D.	Number of Licenses issued			Houses Commenced	Houses Completed
Kidsgrove	...	...	0	0	0
Talke	...	...	4	4	3
Newchapel	...	...	9	9	5
Total	...	...	13	13	8

1—Inspection of Dwelling Houses during the year :-

(1) (a) Total number of dwelling houses inspected for housing defects under Housing Acts

...	...	...	...	Nil
-----	-----	-----	-----	-----

D.—HOUSING—Continued.

(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose	...	...	Nil
(2) Number of dwelling-houses (included under sub-head (1) above which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations 1925	...	...	Nil
(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose	...	...	Nil
(3) Number of dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation (Individual unfit)	...	...	4
(4) Number of dwelling-houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceeding sub-head) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation	...	...	20
2—Remedy of defects during the year without Service of formal Notices :			
Number of defective dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their Officers	...	...	93
3—Action under Statutory Powers during the year :			
(a) Proceedings under Public Health Acts, 1936 :			
(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Notices were served requiring repairs	...	...	9
(2) Number of dwelling-houses which were rendered fit after service of formal Notices	...	...	9
(1) Number of dwelling-houses (or blocks of dwellings) in respect of which Notices were served requiring defects to be remedied	...	...	93
(2) Number of dwelling-houses in which defects were remedied after service of informal Notices	...	...	93
(3) Number of dwelling-houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal Notices :			
(a) By Owners	...	...	50 Bins
(b) By Local Authority in default of Owners	...	...	3 Bins
(c) Proceedings under Sections 11 and 13 of the Housing Act 1936 :			
(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which demolition Orders were made	...	...	0
(2) Number of dwelling-houses demolished in pursuance of demolition Orders	...	...	0
(d) Proceedings under Section 12 of the Housing Act 1936	...	...	Nil

4—Housing Act 1936. Part IV.

Overcrowding :—No accurate figures available.

E.—INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

(a) Milk Supply.

The purity of the milk produced within the area or brought for sale appears to have been satisfactory.

Samples of milk are taken by the Inspectors of the County Council for bacteriological examination. Local Authorities are advised as to unsatisfactory samples so that the farm or dairy can be visited with a view to an improvement being effected.

(b) Meat and other Foods.

The local butchers are being supplied from the distributing centre at Tunstall. Licenses have been issued by the local Food Office for occasional slaughtering of pigs, the pork, in most cases being for home consumption.

(c) Adulteration

Samples of Milk and other Foods are taken by inspectors of the County for Chemical Examination by the County Analyst at Stafford.

F.—PREVALENCE OF AND CONTROL OVER INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES.

There were 51 cases of notifiable infectious diseases under the Public Health Act (including Tuberculosis) during the year. There were also 167 cases of Measles and 29 cases of Whooping Cough, notified under the Measles and Whooping Cough Regulations.

These were distributed as follows :—

Disease	Kids Grove Ward	New Chapel Ward	Talke Ward	Total
Scarlet Fever	10	9	2	21
Pneumonia	3	5	4	12
Erysipelas	3	0	0	3
Whooping Cough	5	12	12	29
Measles	29	40	98	167
Rubella	0	0	3	3
Cerebro Spinal Meningitis	1	0	0	1
T.B. Pulmonary	7	3	1	11
T.B. Non-Pulmonary	1	2	0	3
Grand Total				250

21 cases of Scarlet Fever, were removed to Bradwell Sanatorium.

TUBERCULOSIS.

New Cases and Mortality during 1947.

New Cases ... 15					Deaths ... 6			
Age Periods	Respiratory		Non Respiratory		Respiratory		Non-Respiratory	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
0 - 1 ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
1 - 5 ...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...
5 - 15 ...	...	...	...	1	1	1	...	1
15 - 25 ...	...	...	1	1	...	1	...	...
25 - 35 ...	1	4	...	1	...	...	...	...
35 - 45 ...	1	1	...	...	...	...	...	...
45 - 55 ...	2	1	...	1	1	...	...	...
55 - 65 ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
65 and upwards	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Totals ...	4	6	1	4	2	3	0	1

DIPHTHERIA.

Immunisation against Diphtheria.

Efforts have been made to obtain consent of parents for immunisation of school children, and the Health Visitors have maintained their efforts by distributing Consent Forms at the Clinics and visiting the homes in connection with the younger children.

All immunisations carried out during the year have been performed by the School Medical Staff at the Schools and Clinics.

The percentage of child population immunised against Diphtheria remains fairly constant.

(a) School Children (5 to 15) :

Number immunised during the year, 15

Estimated number of children in district, 1,990.

Total number immunised—

(a) At School, 1,268 ; (b) Before entering School, 499 ; Total 1,760.
= 83.4% of population.

(b) Children under School Age :

Number Immunised during year, 273.

Estimated number of children in district, 1,258 (969 aged 1—5).

Total number immunised, 619 = 49.2% of population, (63% group 1—5)

Swabs have been taken, when occasion has arisen, from unhealthy throats by the School Medical Officer. The pathological findings of these swabs are at once reported, so that immediate steps may be taken to investigate the circumstances and isolate possible cases.

A serum syringe and diphtheria anti-toxin are provided and kept at the Police Station, Kidsgrove, for the emergency use of practitioners.

Immunisation against Organisms of the Typhoid Group.

There has been no volunteers for immunisation against Typhoid.

TREATMENT OF SCABIES.

Premises for the treatment of Scabies are provided at the rear of the Town Hall.

Where authentic notifications of cases of Scabies are received the houses are visited and arrangements made with the occupiers for voluntary treatment. Usually notifications are received from the School Medical Staff, in which case the whole of the family are treated without further medical examination. Medical examination is, however, carried out by me if necessary.

Treatment of females is carried out by the Health Visitors of the County Council during the day, whilst males are treated by a male attendant in the evenings, sessions being arranged as required. Treatment consists of the application of "Benzole Benzoate" Emulsion.

Instructions are given to householders as to the method of dealing with bedding and clothing.

No compulsory action was taken during the year.

Treatments during 1947.

No treatments have been given during 1947.

My best thanks are due to the co-operation of the Chief Sanitary Inspector and Health Visitors.

GENERAL.

The prevalence of Cancer is still high.

Number of deaths from this : Males 12. Females 8.

Hospital accommodation has been sufficient for the infectious cases from the area.

Disinfection of premises and articles which have been exposed to infection is carried out by the Local Authority, when required by myself.

I am, yours faithfully,

HENRY P. HARPUR, M.D.,

Medical Officer of Health

The Annual Report of the Sanitary Inspector for the year 1947.

To the Chairman and Members of the Urban District
Council of Kidsgrove.

Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen,

I have pleasure in submitting my ANNUAL REPORT for the year 1947.

1. DIPHTHERIA IMMUNISATION, Etc.

A portion of my time has been spent in work arising out of the scheme for immunisation of children against Diphtheria including such clerical work as was necessary in compiling Register of Immunisations, Statistics and filing record cards, etc.

2. COMPLAINTS.

322 complaints have been received and dealt with during the year.

3. INSPECTIONS, Etc.

The following is a list of inspections and re-inspections carried out :—

	Primary Inspections	Remediable Defects	Re-in spections	Defects Remedied
*Houses under Public Health Acts	73	112	89	93
Overcrowding ...	600	321	23	210
Water Supplies (Private) ...	—	—	—	—
Ashes Accommodation ...	113	82	91	71
Accumulations ...	2	0	0	2
Animals ...	—	—	—	—
Drainage Inspections ...	39	31	27	31
Drainage Tests ...	39	31	—	—
Water Closets and Slop Closets	30	2	37	30
Pail Closets or Privies and Cesspools	18	18	30	18
Sewers and Street Gullies ...	—	—	—	—
Watercourses and Ditches ...	—	—	—	—
Milk and Dairies, etc. ...	32	7	63	7
Premises for meat inspection	20	3	80	3
Food Preparing premises ...	16	5	30	5
General Food Premises ...	30	14	60	14
Factories and Bakehouses ...	6	—	4	—
Rats and Mice Acts... ...	6	3	14	3
Verminous Premises ...	1	1	3	1
Re Scabies (a) Houses ...	—	—	—	—
(b) Cleansing Station, &c. ...	—	—	—	—
Infectious Diseases... ...	79	—	5	—
Cleansing and Salvage ...	142	—	—	—
Miscellaneous visits... ...	150	—	—	—
	1396	630	556	488

*Includes 27 visits on applications for recommendations to obtain controlled materials (e.g., Timber).

Interviews with owners, builders, etc. 140.

4. SANITARY IMPROVEMENTS.

The following table records some of the sanitary improvements effected during the year ended 31st December :—

Closet Conversions	...	...	...	16
Defective W.C's remedied	...	...	...	23
New Drainage provided	...	...	...	17
New Sinks fixed	...	...	...	2
Obstructed Drains and Private Sewers dealt with	...	...	...	51
Ashbins provided (6 by L.A.)	...	...	...	82
Dairies brought up to standard of M. & D. O.	...	...	...	3

5. HOUSING.

1. General.

Owing to the increasing shortage of labour and scarcity of materials difficulty is still being experienced in getting work done and it has been considered inadvisable to take informal action under Section 9 of the Housing Act. The policy of confining action to items of urgent disrepair by the service of notices under the Public Health Act., is being continued. The abatement of certain nuisances is almost impracticable by reason of the restrictions imposed on the supply of materials such as plaster laths and plaster boarding.

2. Overcrowding.

No accurate figures are available as to the extent of overcrowding in the district.

6. INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

(a) Meat and Other Foods.

Occasional inspection of meat and other foods has been carried out at the shops and at premises where licenses have been issued for occasional slaughtering. Close co-operation has existed between myself and the Officers of the Ministry of Food.

Pigs have been inspected, 1 head being destroyed as unfit by reason of T. B.

The following foods were surrendered as unfit for human consumption from various food premises :—

Article	No. of Tins	lbs.	ozs.
Apricots	2	3	12
Beans	32	24	8
Bacon (cured)	—	78	0
Bacon (tinned)	9	5	8
Butter	—	30	0
Bread	—	1330	0
Butterkist	—	0	4
Bengers Food	10	5	0
Barley	2	1	0
Carrots	3	5	10
Caramel	—	3	0
Chocolate	—	112	0
Cheese	48	39	12
Cremola	4 packets	2	0
Dried Egg	8	4	0
Eggs	50	13	0
Fish (wet)	—	155	0
Fruit	6	7	8
Figs	—	91	0

List of Unfit Food—continued.

Article	No. of Tins		lbs.	ozs.
Irish Stew ...	1	...	1	0
Jam ...	32	...	44	0
Jam (Imported) ...	1	...	2	0
Luncheon Meat ...	1	...	0	12
Meat ...	14	...	21	14
Milk (condensed) ...	102	...	89	12
Milk (Dried) ...	1	...	0	8
Milk (Evaporated) ...	349	...	319	12
Meat and Vegetable ...	2	...	2	0
Malted Food ...	22	...	11	0
Meat Loaf ...	10	...	5	4
Meat ...	—	...	925	0
Marmalade ...	43	...	61	0
Orange Juice ...	4	...	5	0
Peas ...	6	...	7	5
Plums ...	1	...	1	0
Pilchards ...	13	...	12	10
Porkham ...	2	...	1	7
Prunes ...	—	...	112	0
Pears ...	4	...	3	0
Rolled Oats ...	—	...	2	0
Salmon ...	15	...	13	15 $\frac{3}{4}$
Sardines ...	10	...	2	11
Sugar ...	—	...	2	0
Sausage Meat ...	2	...	3	4
Soup ...	1	...	0	10
Soya Cream ...	15	...	7	8
Stewed Steak ...	34	...	81	0
Sausage ...	1	...	1	8
Tomatoes ...	18	...	23	8
Tomato Puree ...	48	...	96	0
Total weight of food condemned during 1947			3766	2 $\frac{3}{4}$

(b) Food and Drugs Act.

Samples of foods and drugs were taken by the Inspectors of the County Council.

c) Milk and Dairies.

Inspections have been made under the provisions of the Milk and Dairies Order, 1936.

7. WATER SUPPLIES.

(a) Private Water Supplies.

One sample has been taken for chemical and bacteriological examination. The premises concerned is at present void.

(b) Public Water Supplies.

12 samples have been taken, of these 6 were submitted for bacteriological and chemical examination, and 6 were submitted for bacteriological examination only.

(a) Report of a Bacteriological examination of the last sample of water submitted.

Description of sample :—

Well (Council Well, Mow Cop)

Count :—

On nutrient agar after 48 hrs incubation at 37°c — 1 colonies per ml.

On nutrient agar after 72 hrs incubation at 20—22°c — 18 colonies per ml.

Coli Aerogenes content (presumptive coli)

Nil per 100 ml after 48 hrs incubation at 37°c.

Other Micro-Organisms present

Remarks :—

The Ministry of Health Report No. 71 suggests that when a public water supply contains not more than 2 presumptive coli per 100 ml. the sample may be regarded as reasonably satisfactory.

This sample shows no bacteriological evidence of recent sewage pollution

(b) Report of Analysis.

Sample of water from Council Well, Mow Cop.

	Parts per 100,000
Total solid matter dried at 212°F	... 22.0
Free and Saline Amonia	... Nil
Albuminoid	... 0.004
Nitric Nitrogen	... 0.08
Chlorine	... 1.9
Oxygen absorbed in 4 hrs at 80°F	... Nil
Appearance	Extremely minute trace of suspended matter
Injurious Metallic contamination	... None
pH Value	... 7.4

This water is chemically of satisfactory quality and if passed bacteriologically may be considered suitable for drinking.

8. SHOP ACTS.

57 inspections have been carried out during the year.

The County Council is the Authority for control of hours of employment, closing hours, etc.

9. FACTORIES.

One factory has been provided with sanitary and washing facilities.

10. INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

Where cases of Diphtheria or Scarlet Fever have occurred fumigation has been carried out. Premises have also been disinfected for cases of Tuberculosis (Pulmonary).

Disinfectant was supplied in every case and instructions given as to precautions necessary to prevent spread of the infection.

11. ASHES ACCOMMODATION.

Temporary regulations require the provision of dust-bins of the following material, size and construction, where Statutory Notices are served under Section 75 of the Public Health Act, 1936.

Galvanised or Jappaned, Fluted or Plain "D" shaped or round of two bushels capacity, with proper handles and closely fitting cover.

76 New Bins were provided as a result of formal notices, plus 6 Regulation Bins supplied by the Authority following the service of Statutory Notices under Section 75 of the Public Health Act, 1936.

12. CLOSET ACCOMMODATION.

Every effort is being made to carry out conversions, but due to shortage of men and materials the progress hoped for was not maintained.

13. DISINFESTATION.

(a) Destruction of Rats and Mice.

On the 1st May 1944, the Council accepted delegation of powers under the Rats and Mice (Destruction) Act, 1919, from the Staffs. County Council and are now responsible for enforcing the provisions of this Act together with the provisions of the Rats and Mice Destruction Infestation Order 1943. The Staffs War Agricultural Executive Committee still undertake disinfestation work on Agricultural Premises.

All "Major Infestations" have been dealt with and the following is a summary of disinfestations carried out during the year.

Council Premises :—

Red Bull Sewage Works, 2 treatments	Estimated total kill	38
Rookery Sewage Works, 1 treatment	Ditto	10
Talke Hurst Tip, 1 treatment	Ditto	20
Total Estimated kill		68

(b) Vermin (other than Rats and Mice)

Premises have been treated for eradication of fleas, cockroaches and furniture beetles.

I am, yours faithfully,

N. ROCHE, M.R.San.I., M.S.I.A.

Chief Sanitary Inspector.

